

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the pending Office Action. Claims 1 and 6-21 are pending in the application. Claims 2-5 have previously been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 16 and 19 are amended to place the pending application in condition for allowance.

No new matter is added. Support for the claim amendments may be found, for example, in paragraphs 0201-0210, with reference to the published patent application (2004/0143482)

Reconsideration of the outstanding rejections in the present application are requested based on the following remarks.

A. The Allowable Subject Matter

In paragraphs 16-17, the Office Action reflects allowable subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action sets forth:

Claims 1, 6-15 and 20-21 are allowable; and

Claims 16-19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph and 35 U.S.C. 101, as set forth in this Office action.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended claims 16 and 19 in response to the asserted rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101 and 35 U.S.C. 112, and to even more clearly satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101 and 35 U.S.C. 112.

Applicant submits that all claims are now in condition of allowance.

B. The 35 U.S.C. 112 Rejection

In the Office Action, claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

applicant regards as the invention. On pages 2 and 3, the Office Action asserts deficiencies regarding the claimed invention.

In response to the rejection, claim 19 is amended to even more clearly satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is obviated.

C. The 35 U.S.C. 101 Rejection

In the Office Action, claims 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101.

The Office Action asserts that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter, and asserts that claim 16 recites "an agent processor" without providing any structure. The Office Action further sets forth basis for the rejection.

In response to the rejection, claim 16 is amended to even more clearly satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is obviated.

CONCLUSION

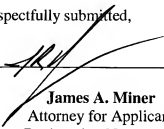
The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete Response to the pending Office Action, and early and favorable consideration of the claims is requested. If the Examiner believes any informalities remain in the application which may be corrected by Examiner's Amendment, or if there are any other issues which may be resolved by telephone, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at (703) 714-7449 is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0206, and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

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Respectfully submitted,



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